

Mr. Joseph Spicella, Chairman
United Way of Passaic Valley

ASPFA, Inc. of New Jersey
December 1, 1986

We are seeking support from the city government in Passaic and Paterson and we hope to acquire enough from these entities to stabilize services for this program.

Keystone's energy has been invested in trying to prevent the closing of the Center in Passaic County.

Despite this situation our Executive Director attempted to make a compromise on the fundraising requirements in an effort to demonstrate that ASPFA wanted to be responsible.

I think you will agree that the agency's first responsibility is to maintain its existence, otherwise there will be no membership participation with United Way.

I want to address the other issues presented in Mr. Woodfield's letter:

1) STAFF CONTRIBUTION

The ASPFA Passaic County staff was placed on notice that their jobs were in jeopardy due to funding uncertainty. In fact the staff had shrunk from 5 to 2 people by the end of October.

Also the staff reacted negatively to the request for a United Way contribution due to the uncertainty of their situation. The timing is not right for cooperation under the circumstances.

2) BOARD CONTRIBUTION

The Executive Director assured us that the only forms for solicitation received from United Way of Passaic Valley were for the designated campaign. In addition I wish to add that all Board members are enrolled in employee contributions at their respective jobs.

3) SOLICITATION OF FUNDS FROM CORPORATIONS IN PASSAIC VALLEY

The Executive Director has assured us that no funds have been received from any Passaic County Corporation since ASPFA officially became a member of United Way of Passaic Valley.

4) SUSTAINING OF PROGRAM EXISTENCE

The Executive Director and Program Director are the staff which should be communicated with in relation to agency visits and not the Center receptionist.

Mr. Joseph Spinale, Chairman
United Way of Passaic Valley

ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey
December 1, 1966

ASPIRA can produce monthly progress reports to verify that despite the present crisis, we are continuing to work with students at John F. Kennedy and Lincoln High Schools.

5) EXPENSE REPORT FOR PATTERSON

Enclosed please find the Expense Report for the Patterson Center for September and October. As you will see the only funding for this program to date is the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

In conclusion, it is the feeling of the Board of Directors that ASPIRA needs to concentrate on establishing its funding for the Passaic County Center.

Once this is established it may then be more practical to join in a relationship with United Way of Passaic Valley.

ASPIRA has enjoyed a long and productive relationship with United Way of Passaic Valley and would like to do the same with your organization. However, the present situation prevents our meeting your standards.

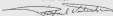
Our request at this point is to allow us a two to three year period to establish our center and then to discuss membership again at that time.

In addition, we still request an opportunity to discuss this issue with the Standards and Admissions Committee to ensure that the facts are clear.

ASPIRA enjoys a reputation as an organization with credibility and integrity and does not wish to let an incident like this bluish that track record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I await your response.

Sincerely,



Rafael Valentin
Chairperson

SP/cn

cc: Mr. James Bradford, Acting Director, United Way Passaic Valley
Mr. Maria Viscuacando-De Leon, Executive Director
ASPIRA Board of Directors